

# ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1926,

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

TO THE

Todmorden Rural District Council

BY

FRANCIS J. DOWDALL,

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

---

---

**Presented June, 1927.**

---

---

HEBDEN BRIDGE:

Kershaw & Ashworth Ltd., Printers, "Times" Office

1927.



# ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1926,

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

TO THE

Todmorden Rural District Council

BY

FRANCIS J. DOWDALL,

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.



---

---

**Presented June, 1927.**

---

---

HEBDEN BRIDGE:

Kershaw & Ashworth Ltd., Printers, "Times" Office

—  
1927.





Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b3020964x>



## Todmorden Rural District Council.

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

---

Holme House,

Hebden Bridge,

April, 1927.

To the Chairman and Members of the Todmorden Rural District Council.

Sir and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the Todmorden Rural District for the year 1926.

The District is mainly composed of hilly country, the lowest part lying about 350 feet above sea level and the highest 1,559 feet. The River Calder, the Rochdale Canal, and the London, Midland and Scottish Railway, and the Halifax and Todmorden Main Road lie close together along the valley at the lowest part of the District.

The area of the District is 20,501 acres. The population was 4,587 in 1921, and the estimated population for the year 1926 is 4,297. Some of the inhabitants belong to the farming class, but the majority are employed as operatives in the various cotton mills in the District and in the adjoining Urban District in the wholesale clothing works and the weaving sheds. In the year 1921 there were 1,527 inhabited houses in the District, and the number of families or separate occupiers in that year was 3.0. In 1926 there were 1,560 houses in the District, of which thirty were uninhabited. The estimated average number of occupants per house for the year 1926 is 2.7. The rateable value is £33,762, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £120. The amount of Poor Law Relief for the year 1926 was £175 10s. 2d.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Births—	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate .....	46 ...	22 ...	24
Illegitimate .....	3 ...	2 ...	1
Birth-Rate (R.G.).....	11.4 per 1000.		
Birth-Rate (England and Wales) .....	17.8 per 1000.		
	Total	M.	F.
Deaths .....	70 ...	32 ...	38
Death-Rate (R.G.) .....	16.3 per 1000.		
Death-Rate (England and Wales).....	11.6 per 1000.		
Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Childbirth			
From Sepsis—Nil. From other causes—0.			
Deaths of Infants under one year of age—			
Legitimate—Total 2; Males 1, Females 1.			
Illegitimate—Total 0; Males 0, Females 0.			
Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1000 Births:—			
Legitimate 43. Legitimate and Illegitimate, total 40.			
Deaths of Infants under one year per 1000 Births (England and Wales)—70.			
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ...	Nil.		
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....	Nil.		
Deaths from Whooping Cough .....	1.		
Deaths from Scarlet Fever .....	0.		
Deaths from Diphtheria .....	1.		
Deaths from Poliomyelitis .....	1.		

## HOSPITALS.

There are no Hospitals in the Todmorden Rural District, but those available are:—

Tuberculosis... The Sanatoria under County Council Grants  
 Maternity..... Maternity Ward, Royal Halifax Infirmary.  
 Children.....Children's Ward of Royal Halifax Infirmary.  
 Fever .....Fielden Hospital, Todmorden, for cases of  
                 Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, and Enteric only.  
 Smallpox.....Sourhall Hospital, Todmorden.  
 Other.....Royal Halifax Infirmary.

No Institutional provision provided for unmarried mothers, illegitimate children, or homeless children, other than the Union Hospital (Stansfield View, Todmorden).



The Fielden and Sourhall Hospitals are managed respectively by the Joint Hospital Committees, and Todmorden Rural District is one of the local authorities of each Committee, the finances of the Committees being met by precept.

The Royal Halifax Infirmary is purely a voluntary institution, and is very well supported by the inhabitants of this district.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious cases are removed by an Ambulance from the Fever Hospital. Non-infectious and Accident cases are removed by an Ambulance jointly owned by Hebden Bridge Urban Council, Mytholmroyd Urban Council, and Todmorden Rural Council. Both these Ambulances are of the modern motor type, and with regard to the Accident Ambulance, patients are called upon to pay a nominal amount on each occasion when the same is used.

### CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

See Table C, pages 19 and 20.

### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

See Table C, page 19.

### PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

Professional nursing in the home is principally carried out where possible by either of the two District Nurses attached to the Hebden Bridge District Nursing Institution. These nurses are qualified both in general and maternity nursing, and are open to attend confinements at a small fixed fee. Owing to the very hilly nature of the district and the inaccessibility of many of the patients' homes, it is quite impossible under existing circumstances for these nurses to undertake as much work as they would otherwise be able to, and until some arrangements can be mutually agreed upon with neighbouring authorities whereby means of conveyance could at all times be secured, the nursing provided in the Rural District must be considered inadequate. I have repeatedly emphasised the need for Maternity Nurses in your areas. There is one registered Maternity Nurse practising in the rural area, whilst I am confident there is enough work to keep more than one very busy.

There are no arrangements for professional nursing in the home for infectious diseases, e.g., measles, etc.

## LABORATORY WORK.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at Wakefield. Auto-genous vaccines and sera are supplied free of charge to local medical men requiring same. The services of the laboratory are much availed of by all the local practitioners in this district.

Diphtheria antitoxin is supplied by the Rural Council free of charge to any medical practitioner requiring it.

## LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

1889, Dec. 4.—The Todmorden Union R.S.A. adopted the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889, to come into operation on February 1st, 1900. (53 and 54, Vict., c. 34).

1891, June 3.—Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890 (53 and 54 Vict., c. 34), adopted in its entirety, to come into operation on 1st August, 1891.

1891, June 3.—Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (53 and 54 Vict., c. 59), Part 3 of Act, so far as applicable to a Rural Authority, adopted, to come into operation on 1st August, 1891.

1885, June 19.—Order of Local Government Board, investing Guardians with Urban powers to contributory place of Heptonstall. Secs. 42 and 44 Public Health Act, 1875; Secs. 157 and 158, Public Health Act, 1875.

1902, Jan. 4.—Order of Local Government Board investing R.D.C. with Urban powers as to providing and maintaining public urinals and determining expenses incurred to be special expenses. Applies to all the R.D.

1893, Sept. 19.—Order of Local Government Board declaring expenses incurred under Sections 42, 44, 157 and 158 of the Public Health Act, 1875, within the Contributory place of Heptonstall, to be "Special Expenses" within the meaning of Sections 229 and 230 of the said Act, and to be charged upon the said Contributory place.

1887, Nov. 3. 1890, April 29.—Heptonstall Drainage Scheme. 2.11.87 Letter and Order re Special Expenses.

1907, Dec. 26.—Order (No. 51,789) of the L.G.B. investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers (for the Parish of Blackshaw) Sec. 160 Public Health Act incorporating Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, respecting naming of streets and numbering of houses. Expenses (excepting establishment and officers) to be Special Expenses and chargeable upon Blackshaw only.



1909, Feb. 17.—Order (No. 53,340) of L.G.B. investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers under Sect. 45 of the P.H. Act 1875, for Blackshaw, Erringden, Heptonstall, and Wadsworth, re Refuse Tips. Expenses to be Special (excepting establishment and officers) and chargeable on Contributory places accordingly.

1909, July 16.—Order (54,103) of L.G.B. investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers under Sect. 42 Public Health Act 1875, re Watering of Streets, for Blackshaw, Erringden, and Wadsworth (Heptonstall being provided for by previous Order). Expenses to be Special (establishment and officers excepted) and chargeable accordingly on Contributory places.

1912, Feb. 29.—Order (58,239) of L.G.B. investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers for Parishes of Erringden, Heptonstall, and Wadsworth. Sect. 160 Public Health Act 1875, incorporating Towns Improvement Clauses Act 1847, respecting Naming of Streets and Numbering of Houses. Expenses (excepting establishment and officers) to be Special Expenses chargeable upon the Parish in respect of which they have been incurred.

1912, April 10.—Order (58,488) of L.G.B. investing R.D.C. with Urban powers under Secs. 42 and 44 of Public Health Act 1875 (so far as not previously in force) for Blackshaw, Erringden and Wadsworth (Heptonstall having already such powers under Orders of 1885 and 1893), and declaring expenses (excepting establishment and officers) to be Special Expenses chargeable upon Parish in respect of which they are incurred. Sec. 42 relates to Scavenging and Cleansing; Sec. 44 relates to Bye-laws for ditto.

1919, March 20.—Order (65,193) of L.G.B. determining all expenses (except establishment and officers) to be Special Expenses chargeable upon Parish in respect of which they are incurred. Applies to Blackshaw, Erringden, and Wadsworth. For Cleansing of Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools. As to removal of House Refuse see Order of 17th February, 1909. For Heptonstall see Order of 19th September, 1893.

1919, Nov. 10.—Order 65,544 of Minister of Health declaring all expenses legally incurred in respect of Sewage Disposal Works for Contributory Place of Heptonstall to be Special Expenses.

1921, Feb. 26.—Order 66,973, Ministry of Health, to operate from 21st March, 1921, investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers with respect to Fires in respect of the Rural District. General Expenses.

1924, Jan. 14.—Order 68,972, Ministry of Health, declaring Section 50 (as to Ambulance) of Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907, to be in force in Todmorden Rural District. General expenses.

1924, Jan. 28.—Order 69,998, investing Todmorden R.D.C. with Urban Powers under Section 154 of Public Health Act 1875, as to purchase of premises for widening etc. any street in the Rural District, but not for the making of a new street. General expenses.

1925, Feb. 16.—Home Secretary Order 472 867/1, putting Section 90 (Agreements as to Fire Appliances) of Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 into force in Todmorden Rural District. General Expenses.

1925, May 9.—M.H. Order No. 69,980, investing R.D.C. with Urban Powers (re Public Lighting) under Section 161 of the 1st paragraph P.H. Act 1875, in all the Contributory Places, and Section 163 in Contributory Places of Blackshaw and Erringden. Expenses to be Special Expenses upon the Contributory Place in respect of which they have been incurred.

1926, July 21.—Letter of Ministry of Health (I.B. 2432/8988) sanctioning communication of a sewer in Hurst Road with the Hebden Bridge Urban District Council's sewer, re Hurst Drainage.

1926, August 24.—Order of Ministry of Health determining to be Special Expenses chargeable on Wadsworth expenses in respect of sewage disposal, under an agreement of July 14, 1926, with Hebden Bridge Urban District Council re Hurst Road Drainage.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

For particular references to Water Supply, Drainage and Sewage, Closet Accommodation, Scavenging, see Table C, pages 14 and 15.

For Sanitary Inspection of the area see Table C, page 14.

Other Sanitary Conditions requiring notice see Table C, page 14.



## SUPPLEMENTARY REMARKS.

**Schools.** — The sanitary condition of the Schools in the area may be said to be good. The water supply to the day school in Heptonstall is not at all satisfactory, being purely a rain-water supply. The responsibility of the general health of the children rests with the School Medical Officer for the County, Dr. Kaye, and the Medical Inspectors acting under him. The children are examined regularly with the result that where physical defects are discovered subsequent action is taken with consequent good results. I would like to urge the greater necessity for dental inspection: it is deplorable to find so many of our young children after they leave school with decayed teeth, which should have been attended to years before.

**Housing.**—The main details under this heading are dealt with in Table D, page 21.

**Inspection and Supervision of Food.**—See Table C, page 16.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The year on the whole has been a healthy one—the only Infectious Disease that could have been considered to have been at all prevalent was Scarlet Fever. There were 18 notifications of this disease notified to me. I have no evidence of any “ return ” cases of this fever. The Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively have not been used to my knowledge. There were no Primary Vaccination and Re-vaccination performed by me as Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

There were 17 Vaccinations performed in your district during the year 1926.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1926.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total Deaths
Smallpox .....	0	...	0
Scarlet Fever .....	18	...	17
Diphtheria .....	2	...	2
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	0	...	0
Puerperal Fever .....	1	...	1
Pneumonia .....	2	...	0
Poliomyelitis .....	1	...	0

No case of Ophthalmia neonatorum was notified during the year.



## TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during the year.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 .....	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
15 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 .....	1	..	1	...	...	1	...	...
25 .....	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 .....	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
45 .....	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55 .....	...	...	...	..	...	1	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Totals ...	5	1	2	0	1	2	—	—

There were three deaths from Tuberculosis during the year, all these cases having been previously notified to me.

## PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was deemed necessary to be taken under the above Regulations.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

No action taken.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre was established in the neighbouring town of Hebden Bridge towards the end of the year 1920. One afternoon clinic is held each week for expectant and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age. The clinic is in charge of a lady doctor, the clinic nurse, and a number of local ladies, the latter giving their help voluntarily. The number of patients attending this clinic is steadily increasing. In addition there are two morning clinics held weekly, at which the clinic nurse attends. New-born babies are visited at their homes and are kept under observation, and the mothers advised to attend the clinic when necessary.

These clinics are run under the auspices of the Public Health Department of Wakefield. There was no death as a consequence of child-birth. There were two deaths of infants under one year, one from whooping cough at six months and one congenital heart disease at 11 months. There are no day nurseries in the district. Abnormal or difficult maternity cases are generally sent to the Royal Infirmary at Halifax, some ten miles away, where a very modern and well-equipped Maternity Ward has recently been opened.

At the time of making this report there are no arrangements in existence with any Hospital in the locality for the admission of cases of Puerperal Fever, but I am in communication with the County Medical Officer of Health on this important subject, and am hopeful that this serious drawback may soon be rectified.

I have the honour, Sir and Gentlemen, to remain,

Your obedient servant,

**FRANCIS JOSEPH DOWDALL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,**

Medical Officer of Health.

# Statement of Notifications of Infectious Diseases received during the year 1926.

## Sanitary District—Todmorden Rural.

Cases notified or otherwise ascertained.		Cases removed to Hospital.	
—	Smallpox		
18	Scarlet Fever		
2	Diphtheria, including Mem. Croup		
—	Typhoid	Enteric Fever	
—			
—	Paratyphoid		
2	Pneumonia		
1	Puerperal Fever		
—	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.		
1	Acute Poliomyelitis		
—	Acute Polio Encephalitis		
—	Encephalitis Lethargica		
—	Typhus Fever		
—	Relapsing Fever		
—	Continued Fever		
—	Trench Fever		
—	Dysentery		
—	Ophthalmia Neonatorum		
—	Erysipelas		
6	Respiratory Tuberculosis (New cases only).		
2	Other Forms of Tuberculosis (New cases only).		
—	Contracted Abroad (Ascertained from death certificate)	Malaria.	
—	Contracted in England		
—	Chickenpox		
—	Measles (excluding German measles)		
—	Whooping Cough		
—	Other Diseases		
—	Smallpox		
17	Scarlet Fever		
2	Diphtheria		
—	Enteric Fever		
1	Other—Puerperal Fever		

**Respiratory and Other Forms of Tuberculosis.**—Include under these headings the number of primary cases notified, i.e., number notified on Forms A and B. The number of cases notified on Forms C and D should not be included.

**Chicken-pox, Measles and Whooping Cough.**—Please state if any of these diseases have been made compulsorily notifiable in your district during 1926, and if so, when, and for what length of time. — None have been made compulsorily notifiable.

(Signed) F. J. DOWDALL,  
Medical Officer of Health.



**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1926 for the Rural District of Todmorden, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.**

**1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces. Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.**

Premises. (1)	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosec- tions. (4)
Factories .....	8 ...	Nil ...	Nil
(Including Factory Laundries) }			
Workshops.....	Nil ...	Nil ...	Nil
(Including Workshop Laundries) }			
Workplaces.....	Nil ...	Nil ...	Nil
(Other than Outworkers' premises) }			
Total.....	8 ...	Nil ...	Nil

**2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.**

**Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—\***

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.				No. of Prosec- utions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)		
Want of cleanliness .....	2	2	0	0	0
Want of ventilation .....	1	1	0	0	0
Overcrowding .....	0	0	0	0	0
Want of drainage of floors.....	1	1	0	0	0
Other nuisances .....	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary accommodation. { insufficient .....	0	0	0	0	0
{ unsuitable or defective...					
{ not separate for sexes.... }					

**Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—**

Illegal occupation of underground.....					
bakehouse (s. 101).....	0	0	0	0	0
†Other offences .....	0	0	0	0	0
Total.....	4	4	0	0	0

† Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.

\* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

**FRANCIS JOSEPH DOWDALL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.**

## TABLE C, 1926.

### TODMORDEN RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.

#### Nuisance Inspections.

Total Number of Inspections made in 1926 for Nuisances only—347. (For Housing Inspections see Table D).

Nuisances reported in 1926—89.

Nuisances in hand, end of 1925—4.

Total needing abatement—93. Abated during 1926—87

Outstanding end of 1926—6.

Notices served, Informal—89. Complied with—87.

Notices served, Statutory—None. Complied with—

Total number of Summonses or other legal proceedings—None.

Filthy Houses, Cleansing of—1.

Any notices served under Sec. 46 of P.H.A. 1875 (or any other Act)?—No.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in District.	No. on Register.	Total No. of Inspections Made.	General Condition.	Legal Pro- ceedings (if any.)
Common Lodging Houses	Nil	...	0	...	...
Houses let in Lodgings...	Nil	...	0	...	...
Canal Boats .....	Nil	...	0	3	...
Knackers' Yards ... ..	Nil	...	0	0	..
Tents, Vans and Sheds ...	27	...	0	11	.. Satisfactory ... Nil
Offensive Trades.....	1	...	1	14	.. ,, ... Nil
(Tripe Boiling).					

Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades?—No.

#### Drainage and Sewerage.

Developments during 1926?—Improved drainage to Heptonstall County Council School, also ventilator. 41 houses connected to sewer at Charlestown, 15 of which are sink wastes only, w.c.'s previously connected.

Developments still needed as to (a) Want of sewers—Yes, in the Charlestown area. (b) Improvement of defective sewers—Yes, at Jumble Hole and Under Bank.

Sewage Disposal Works (a) Any inadequacy—Yes, at Heptonstall. (b) Any complaints—Yes, from West Riding Rivers Board re the Stoodley Glen filter, now abated.

Any sink wastes still needing disconnection?—No.

**Closet Accommodation.**

Number of Privies with open middens—12.

Number of Pail or Tub Closets—552.

Number of Privies with covered middens—64.

No. of Water Closets—142. Waste-water Closets—7.

No. of Privies re-constructed during 1926: (a) as w.c.'s—4. (b) Other—6.

No. of additional Closets provided for old property in 1926: (a) w.c.'s—2. (b) Other—3.

No. of Closets constructed in 1926 for new houses: (a) w.c.'s—1. (b) Other—3.

**Scavenging.**

Any change during 1926?—No.

Performed by (a) Council—Yes. (b) Contractor—Yes. (c) Owners or Occupiers—Yes.

How is refuse disposed of? No. of loads to (a) Destructor—Nil. (b) Tips—1280. (c) Farmers—Nil.

Total annual cost—£635 9s. 2d.

Is there any inadequacy, and where?—No.

Any utilisation of waste material?—No.

**Water Supply.**

Any developments during 1926?—No.

Restricted in any way?—No.

Any general insufficiency, and where?—In Heptonstall during a very dry season.

Any action in regard to unsatisfactory quality, and where?—Yes, in Heptonstall and Blakedean.

Any new sources added?—Yes, to one house in Blackshaw. Any disused sources re-used?—No.

**Milk Supply.**

Are Two Registers being kept as required by Section 2 (3) of the 1922 Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act?—(a) For Retailers—Yes. (b) For Cow-keepers or Wholesale Traders—Yes.

Have any Licences been granted under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, to distributors of:—

“ Certified ” milk—No. “ Grade A ”—No. “ Grade A (Tuberculin Tested) ”—No. “ Grade A (Pasteurised) ”—No. “ Pasteurised ”—No.

Have you had samples of Graded Milk tested? Give number and kind—No. Results—

Have any Retailers been removed from the Register?—No.



Number of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for analysis under F. & D. Acts—None.

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for bacteriological examination?—6.

What arrangement for periodical Veterinary Inspection of Dairy Cows? — None, only that arranged by County Council.

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1926?—No.

No. of Milk Cows kept in the District—1130.

No. of Cowkeepers in District producing and selling milk—140. Number Registered—143.

No. of Retail Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers—35. No. who are Milk Retailers only—3.

Total No. of Retail Milk Sellers Registered—38.

Total number of Cowsheds—249.

Total No. of Inspections in 1926—139.

Cowkeepers 71. Retailers—68.

Any Inspection or other action by Districts to which milk is sent?—Yes.

### Other Foods.

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officer of S.A. for examination under the Food and Drugs Acts in 1926—None. Number adulterated—

Any special examination of Milk for Dirt?—Yes.

Number of seizures of unsound food—1.

Kind and quantity—274lbs. cow udders.

No. of Prosecutions—None.

Any Public Abbatoir?—No.

What accommodation?—Slaughter-houses.

No. of Slaughterhouses—3. Registered—3.

Licensed—None.

Unsatisfactory, structurally, or in bad position?—Fair.

No. of times each Slaughterhouse inspected?—12.

Total Inspections—36.

No. of Prosecutions (a) Food and Drugs—Nil. (b) Unsound Food—Nil. (c) Re Slaughter-houses—Nil.

Bakehouses, No.—5. Any underground?—No.

Total number of Inspections—24.

### Schools.

No. of Schools in District—5.

No. visited by M.O.H.—3.

Action taken—Throat swabs taken of scholars. School disinfected. Schools closed by M.O.H.—None.

**Factories and Workshops.**

No. of Smoke Observations taken—None.

Number of Workshops—80. No. of times each Workshop inspected—Nil. Total Inspections—Nil.

Any Industrial Welfare Workers appointed—No.

**Adoptive Acts** in force in District.

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890—All.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890—As far as applicable to Rural Area.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907—Section 50—Ambulance.

Private Street Works Act, 1892—No.

Public Health Act, 1925—No.

For Rural Districts: Any Urban Powers obtained in 1926—21st July, 1926, Ministry of Health letter sanctioning communication of a sewer in Hurst Road with the Hebden Bridge Council sewer. Order Ministry of Health determining to be special expenses chargeable to Wadsworth.

**Bye-laws and Regulations** in force in District.

Subject.	Date of Approval.
Cleansing of Footways and Pavements	None Approved.
Scavenging .....	„ „
Prevention of Nuisances .....	„ „
Common Lodging Houses .....	„ „
New Streets and Buildings.....	„ „
Alteration of Buildings .....	„ „
Slaughter-Houses .....	„ „
Baths and Wash-Houses .....	„ „
Houses let in Lodgings .....	„ „
Cemeteries .....	„ „
Mortuaries .....	„ „
Offensive Trades .....	„ „
Tents, Vans, and Sheds .....	„ „

Any relaxation of Bye-laws under Section 24 of House and Town Planning Act, 1919—No.

Any new Bye-laws made under Section 6 of the Housing Act, 1905—No.

Any new Bye-laws made under Section 68 of the Housing Act, 1905—No.

## Infectious and Other Diseases.

Diseases specially prevalent in 1926—None.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list?—None.

Any influences threatening the health of the District?  
—No.

Any undue prevalence of Venereal Diseases?—No.

Any prevalence of Jaundice, and at what ages?—No.

## Hospitals and other Institutions.

(a) General: Accident—One. Address—Royal Infirmary, Halifax.

Children—One. Address—Royal Infirmary (Children's Ward).

(b) Local: Hospital, Cottage—None.

(c) Infectious, General—One. Address—Fielden Hospital, Todmorden.

Do., Smallpox—One. Address—Sourhall Hospital, Todmorden.

(d) Maternity (Homes)—None.

Any arrangement for nursing Puerperal Fever cases?—

(a) At home—No. (b) In Hospital—No.

(e) Clinic and Treatment Centre not provided by County Council Scheme—None.

Whether any other disease (e.g. Pneumonia) is treated in Infectious Diseases Hospital—No.

Any change or extension of (a) General Infectious Hospital—No. (b) Smallpox Hospital—No.

**Tuberculosis.**—Procedure by M.O.H. or his staff after notification.

(1) Inspection of patient's home and workshop—By M.O.H. and Sanitary Inspector.

(2) Examination for contacts—Done at Tuberculosis Dispensary.

(3) Is house disinfected?—Yes. When?—After removal of patient or after death.

(4) Leaflets, Lectures, etc., distributed—Yes.

(5) Action re spitting—Notices distributed in workshops

(6) Is sputum examined apart from Dispensary?—Yes.

(7) Any special procedure adopted in cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis with T.B. in sputum — Flasks provided and patients requested to burn sputum.

(8) Are the requirements of Tuberculosis Regulations as to notification observed by general practitioners?  
—Yes.

(9) Any action under Section 62 of Public Health Act, 1925—No.



**Bacteriology** (County Laboratory). Any suggestions?—No.

### **Infant Mortality.**

Any suggestions?—No.

Any voluntary Centres for Child or Mother Welfare?—No.

Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1926?—None.

Supply of Milk to Mothers and Infants. Any action?—Artificial foods supplied at reduced rates from the Hebden Bridge Clinic.

### **Vital Statistics.**

No. of Still Births during 1926—

Deaths during 1926—(1) Gross Deaths, i.e., Total actually registered in the District, without any correction—Males 26, Females 29.

(2) No. of uncertified deaths (included above)—Nil.

### **Mortuaries.**

What accommodation—(a) for accidents—Mortuary at Lewis Holme, Hebden Bridge. (b) For infectious cases other than at hospital—None. (c) For other purposes—None.

Any suggestions made by M.O.H.—I have suggested improvements which have been carried out.

### **Sanitary Staff.**

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H.—£58

Name of Sanitary Inspector—Edgar Simcox.

Annual Salary as Inspector—£120.

Other appointments held—Highway Surveyor.

Salary for such other Appointments—£119.

Any Assistants?—No. Is Staff sufficient?—Yes.

Does M.O.H. receive copies of Memos. and Circulars distributed by Ministry of Health?—Yes.

### **Clinics.** Any Suggestions—

(a) Tuberculosis—The establishment of a Dispensary nearer than the existing one.

(b) Venereal Diseases—How advertised and if any difficulty in reaching nearest?—No particular advertisement during the year. Nearest Clinic 8 to 10 miles distant.

(c) Child Welfare—No.

(d) Ante-Natal—No.

(e) School—No.

(f) Dental—More regular inspection of the children attending Schools and subsequent treatment.

(g) Ophthalmic—No.

**Any Remarks as to—**

- (a) Voluntary Agencies for social betterment—No.
- (b) District Nursing Association — No provision of nurses in the area. More work could be got through by the two nurses attached to the Hebden Bridge Nursing Association if a means of conveyance was provided for them.
- (c) Any Dispensary—The provision of a local Tuberculosis Dispensary.
- (d) Health Visiting (co-operation with local M.O.H.)—No.
- (e) Tuberculosis, Home Visiting do. do. and medical attendant—No.
- (f) Dental Services—The available services are insufficient.
- (g) Midwifery Services—No.
- (h) Propaganda Work re Tuberculosis, Child Welfare, or Venereal Diseases—No.

**Housing**—See Table D—but please state No. of Certificates given under Increase of Rent (Restriction) Act, 1920, Sec. 2 (2)—None.

**Special Reports and Investigations on any Subjects.**

Special Report by County M.O.H. on 34 Unfit Houses in Wadsworth. Cockhill Tip (now disused). Farm Buildings (prepared from rate books), their trade or business, Oct. 1st, 1926. Existing Water supplies in the Parish of Heptonstall.

**Supplementary Remarks** as to Sanitary requirements of District, suggestions of M.O.H., and extended notes on any of the foregoing entries.

There was a Special Ministry of Health Inquiry held in December, 1926, re Heptonstall Sewage Disposal Works, which were considered to be inadequate. There certainly would seem to be a necessity for improving these works, but the matter is still under consideration.

## TABLE D.

### Summary of Housing Work during 1926.

Table showing action under Sections 3, 8, 9, 11, 14, 15 of the Housing Act, 1925, and the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, on matters arising therefrom.

---

Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1925.

Houses not reasonably fit for habitation. Section 3, 1925—0.

Houses totally unfit, Section 11, 1925—0.

---

Houses inspected for “housing defects” in 1926 under Acts and Regulations.

Total inspected and recorded—39.

Houses found satisfactory on inspection—5.

Houses needing further action—34.

---

Houses not reasonably fit.

Houses found with defects—4.

Defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action—3.

Action under Section 3, 1925 Act.

Houses in regard to which formal notices were served—21.

Houses made fit after formal notice—5.

Houses in respect of which the Council executed work in default of owner—0.

Houses in regard to which owner elected to close house instead of complying with notices—0.

Action in the case of houses with defects remediable under Public Health Acts.

Houses in regard to which formal notices were served—18.

Houses made satisfactory after formal notice—18.



## Unfit Houses.

Houses found to be totally unfit—30.

Unfit houses remedied without formal notice—3.

Action under Sections 9, 11, 14, 15 of 1925 Act.

Houses closed voluntarily—0.

Houses represented to Council for closing orders—9.

Houses in respect of which closing orders were made—7

Houses closed after service of closing order—3.

Houses made fit and closing order determined by the Council—0.

Houses demolished voluntarily—0.

Houses for which demolition orders were made by Council—0.

Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders—0.

---

 Appeals.

Appeals against notices, etc., under Section 3 (5), 1925—0.

Appeals against closing orders under Section 11 (2), 1925—0.

Appeals under Section 11 (6) 1925 (refusal to determine closing orders)—0.

Appeals against demolition orders Section 14 (4) 1925—0.

---

Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1926.

Houses not reasonably fit for habitation. Section 3, 1925—4.

Houses totally unfit. Section 11, 1925—12.

---

**Other Action in regard to Housing:—**

Total number of houses in district—1560.

Number of working-class houses—1499.

General standard compared with that of the Ministry of Health in Manual Vol. 1., 1919—Very fair. Geographical altitude and contours make comparison difficult.

Obstructive Buildings.—Any building represented by M.O.H. under Section 19, 1925 Act?—No.

Any building represented by a Justice of the Peace, Parish Council, or Four Local Government Electors under Section 19 (2) 1925 Act?—No.

Unhealthy Areas—Any complaint by a Justice of the Peace, or Four Local Government Electors, under Section 36 (2)?—No.

Any representations under Part II. of 1925 Act? If so, give particulars—

Re-construction Schemes.—Have L.A. directed any to be prepared under Part II. of the 1925 Act?—No.

Any closed houses acquired under Section 4, 1925 Act?—No.

Conversion of Houses.—Any houses converted into separate tenements under Section 102, 1925 Act?—No.

Penalty on re-letting of houses ordered to be closed.—Any action under Section 12 of 1925 Act?—No.

Unfit Houses.—Any complaints to the Medical Officer of Health by a Justice of the Peace, Parish Council, or any Four Local Government Electors under Section 10, 1925 Act?—No.

Any action under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899 to 1923?—No.

Any scarcity of houses? If so, where?—No.

Any overcrowding in houses, and where?—No.

Any special activity in house building, and where?—No.

Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping rooms under Section 18, 1925 Act?—No.

Total number of houses built in the district under State-aided and all conditions in 1926: (a) Working-class dwellings—None. (b) Other—None.

A.—Scheme under 1923 Act.

Total number of Houses erected 1926: (1) By Council—None. (2) By Private Enterprise—None.

B. Scheme under 1924 Act.

Total number of Houses erected 1926. (1) By Council—None. By Private Enterprise—None.

Total number of Houses provided under all State-aided schemes, 1926: (1) By Council—None. (2) By Private Enterprise—None.

## Town Planning.

Have Council joined a Regional Town Planning Committee in 1926?—No.

Have Council passed a resolution in 1926 deciding to prepare a scheme?—No.

Any scheme contemplated?—No.

Have Council propounded a scheme in 1926?—No.

Has a scheme been finally approved by the Ministry of Health in 1926?—No.

Has a scheme been submitted to the Ministry of Health in 1926?—No.

Has a preliminary statement been prepared and submitted to the Ministry for approval in 1926?—No.

Name and Address of Officer designated to make inspections under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 —  
No officer has been designated to make inspections.

(Signed)

**FRANCIS JOSEPH DOWDALL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,**

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.**





